AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 67, lines 7-9 (paragraph [0339] of the corresponding U.S. Application Publication (No. 2006-0148692)) with the following amended paragraph:

For the purpose of identification of a rat sequence comprising GenBank No. ~~AI013865~~AI170665, race was carried out using rat cDNA as a template. The cDNA for race was synthesized in the following manner.

Please replace the paragraph at page 67, lines 10-22 (paragraph [0340] of the corresponding U.S. Application Publication (No. 2006-0148692)) with the following amended paragraph:

Rat primary nerve cells prepared in the same manner as in Example 1 were cultured for 3 days, and after tunicamycin was added to a final concentration of 500 nM, the cells were cultured for additional 24 hours, and total RNA was recovered using ISOGEN (Nippon Gene), and polyA RNA was purified using μMACS mRNA Isolation Kit (Miltenyi Biotec). Using this RNA as a template, cDNA for race was synthesized by using SMART RACE cDNA Amplification Kit (Clontech), and using this cDNA as a template, 5' race was conducted with a primer for race (SEQ ID NO:3) prepared on the basis of GenBank No. ~~AI013865~~AI170665, and nested race was conducted with a race primer for nest (SEQ ID NO:4). The resulting race product was ligated with pCR4-TOPO (Invitrogen, Inc.) and used to transform Escherichia coli DH5α (TOYOBO). Using the resulting colonies, synthetic primers (SEQ ID NOS:5 and 6), and ExTaq (TAKARA) as an enzyme, PCR was carried out under the following conditions (1) to (3) to give a specific PCR product.

(1) reaction at 96°C for 1 minute,

(2) 30 cycles each consisting of reaction at 96°C for 15 seconds, at 60°C for 10 seconds and at 72°C for 3 minutes, and

(3) reaction at 72°C for 5 minutes.

Please replace the first full paragraph at page 68 (paragraph [0342] of the corresponding U.S. Application Publication (No. 2006-0148692)) with the following amended paragraph:

From the foregoing result, it was estimated that a human ortholog of GenBank No. ~~AI013865~~AI170665 was hCT30212, and cloning of ORF in hCT30212 was attempted.

(2) Cloning of ORF in hCT30212